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RURAL DISTRICT OF WAYLAND.

THE

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

TOGETHER WITH

THE

REPORTS

OF THE

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTORS

AND

WATERWORKS ENGINEER.

MINISTRY OF HEALTH LIBRARY

1962.

S T A F F .

Medical Officer of Health:

A.S. DUNN.

L.R.C.P., L.R.C.S., D.P.H.

Public Health Inspector and
Inspector under Petroleum Acts.

A.T. BOORE

F.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.H.

(Also holds the Certificate for the Inspection of Meat and other Foods).

Additional Public Health Inspectors.

A.E. SHELDRAKE.

M.A.P.H.I.

S.G. POOLE.

M.A.P.H.I.

Chief Waterworks Engineer:

M.G.M. SHORT.

A.I.W.E.

Committees concerned with matters of Public Health:

WATER AND SEWERAGE COMMITTEE.

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE.

HOUSING COMMITTEE.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my Report for the year 1962.

VITAL STATISTICS.

The Registrar General estimated the population of Wayland Rural District to be 20,040 at mid-year 1962.

Births. 357.

Live Births 354. Illegitimate live births 12

Stillbirths 3. Illegitimate stillbirths NIL

3.4.% of live births were illegitimate. (England and Wales 6.4%)

Birth Rate (crude): 17.7. **Birth Rate (adjusted):** 22.6.

Deaths. 228

There were 7 infant deaths and no maternal deaths.

Death Rate (crude): 11.4. **Death Rate (adjusted):** 11.6.

Rate	Wayland R.D.	Norfolk	England.
Birth	22.6	16.1	18.0
Death	11.6.	12.1.	11.9.
Maternal mortality.	NIL.	NIL.	0.35
Infant Mortality	19.8.	14.4.	21.4.
Neonatal Mortality	5.6	10.6	15.1.
Early Neonatal Mortality	5.6	8.8.	not available.
Stillbirth	8.4	17.7	8.1
Perinatal	14.0	26.3	not available.
Legitimate Infant Mortality	20.5	12.6	not available.
Illegitimate Infant Mortality	NIL	47.9	not available.

COMMENT.

The birth rate is considerably higher than it was last year. The death rate is about the same level as that experienced in the country as a whole. The illegitimacy rate is again lower than the national figure, which has gone up from 5.9% to 6.4% this year.

There were seven deaths in infancy. Two were attributed to physical difficulties at the confinement and occurred within a few hours of birth. The later deaths in the first year were due to congenital heart defects, kidney disease, malignant tumour, acute bronchitis, and pneumonia.

Two of the three stillborn infants were premature, the birth weights being two pounds and three and a half pounds. The third child was born dead at full term. The whole course of pregnancy and labour was uneventful and apparently normal; The cause of this death is quite unknown.

Causes of Death as registered in 1962.

		Male.	Female.
1.	Tuberculosis, respiratory	0	0
2.	Tuberculosis, other.	0	0
3.	Syphilis	0	0
4.	Diphtheria	0	0
5.	Whooping-cough	0	0
6.	Meningococcal infections	0	0
7.	Acute poliomyelitis	0	0
8.	Measles	0	0
9.	Other infective and parasitic diseases.	0	0
10	Malignant neoplasm stomach.	3	1
11	Malignant neoplasm, bronchus, lung.	9	1
12	Malignant neoplasm, breast	0	6
13.	Malignant neoplasm, uterus	0	2
14.	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	8	7
15.	Leukaemia	0	1
16.	Diabetes	0	1
17.	Vascular lesions of Nervous system	15	25
18.	Coronary disease, angina	24	17
19.	Hypertension with heart disease	4	1
20.	Other heart disease	28	9
21.	Other circulatory diseases	7	8
22.	Influenza	0	0
23.	Pneumonia	9	7
24.	Bronchitis	6	1
25.	Other diseases of the respiratory system.	0	1
26.	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	2	0
27.	Gastritis, enteritis	1	0
28.	Nephritis, nephrosis	2	1
29.	Hyperplasia of prostate	2	0
30.	Pregnancy, childbirth and abortion	0	0
31.	Congenital malformations	1	0
32.	Other defined and illdefined diseases	2	7
33.	Motor vehicle accidents	4	2
34.	All other accidents	1	0
35.	Suicide	2	0
36.	Homicide	0	0
		130	98
		228	

Age at Death.

Age group	-1	1-	5-	10-	20-	30-	40-	50-	60-	70-	80-	90	All Ages.
Male	3	1	0	2	0	0	2	11	27	50	29	5	130
Female	4	0	2	1	0	1	2	10	18	24	26	10	98

COMMENT:

All but 14 of the 228 deaths occurredin the second half of life. Seven of these early deaths occurred in infancy and are mentioned in an earlier paragraph. Five met death prematurely due to accident, one by drowning, four in road accidents. A child and a young women both died of severe asthmatic spasm which did not respond to treatment.

More than half the total number of deaths were certified to failures in the heart or blood vessels, the great majority in aged persons. Malignant growths, cancer and the like, form the next important group of fatal diseases. Lung cancer is again the commonest of these. The ages at death from this cause were, men :- 49, 51, 59, 64, 65, 68, 72, 73 and 80, and the woman 78.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Tuberculosis: There were no deaths locally from this disease.

Tuberculosis Register - Wayland R.D.

	Respiratory			Other			
Year	M	F	Total	M	F	Total	Grand Total
1962	52	40	92	29	18	47	139
1961	47	39	86	29	17	46	132
1960	51	38	89	29	15	44	133
1959	50	38	88	30	17	47	135
1958	47	35	82	29	19	48	130

BCG Vaccination:

This protection against tuberculosis is offered to schoolchildren at or about 13 years old. In County Health Area 6 which covers the area of Wayland R.D. Swaffham R.D. Thetford M.B. and Swaffham U.D. there were 491 children eligible for such vaccination. The parents of 378 (i.e. 77%) agreed to the procedure - a good response.

After testing, 44 children were found not to require vaccination, they had already acquired some immunity. Of the remaining 334, 273 were vaccinated and 61 were absent either for the test or the vaccination session.

Thus 9% of these children already had some immunity acquired through contact with the disease, 56% were immunised with BCG (a weakened strain of tubercle bacilli) and the immune state of 35% is unknown - 23% non acceptors and 12% absentees.

Mass Radiography Survey.

The mobile unit visited Watton and Attleborough this year. The object of the exercise is to find cases of tuberculosis before the disease has caused symptoms and by early treatment after diagnosis to make the patient non-infectious to other people.

Volunteer Response by Age Groups - Watton Area Survey.

Age Group.	15/24	25/34	35/44	45/54	55/64	65+	All Ages.
Male	139	152	173	131	84	29	708
Female	178	125	134	91	55	18	601
Total	317	277	307	222	139	47	1309

One active case was discovered and one doubtful result requiring further investigation.

Volunteer Response by Age Groups - Attleborough Area Survey

Age Group	15/24	25/34	35/44	45/54	55/64	65+	All Ages.
Male	105	118	136	105	65	14	543
Female	119	82	92	63	32	11	399
Total	224	200	228	168	97	25	942

No active cases were found. Two persons were asked to attend the Chest Clinic for further examination.

Surveys of the general population usually yield about 1 case for every 2 - 3000 volunteers, so the scale of the local results is as expected. It is interesting to note how shy the ladies were, at all ages, in coming for X-ray. There are probably several factors operating here, e.g. more men may come in to these towns to work from the surrounding villages, and the examination therefore was more easily attended; there may also have been a mistaken belief that it was necessary to undress as for full size X-ray films in hospital practice. Note the particularly low response in the retired age group considering how high a proportion of the population they form - at least one tenth. It is known that there is a sizeable reservoir of infection with tuberculosis among older people. A persistent cough is worth an X-ray of chest at any age.

A Member of the Staff developed tuberculous meningitis this year. Arrangements were made for contacts to be X-rayed. No secondary cases were reported.

Smallpox.

Last year there was much discussion on the merits and demerits of infant vaccination. As a result, the Minister of Health appointed an expert committee to consider the subject.

Their view is that children should be vaccinated, but that there is no need for this to be done in the first year. They suggest just after one year old as a suitable time for vaccination, and advise against vaccinating those with eczema, or in general poor health.

During 1962, in County Health Area 6, 1049 primary vaccinations were done and 792 revaccinations.

Poliomyelitis.

The number of persons in this County Health Area who have completed a three dose course is 14,474. There are some 38,000 people living in the Area. As the vaccination is on offer, with few exceptions, only to those under forty it follows that a very high proportion of those eligible are protected. At the beginning of the year 10,837 had had three doses, thus in the year 1962 another 3637 completed the course.

Most of the vaccine used this year was given by mouth. Only 167 persons preferred to complete with the Salk vaccine which is given by injection.

To keep immunity at peak levels schoolchildren between the ages of five and twelve years old are given a fourth dose. Last year we had a big push on this front; 2,731 such doses were given. This year only the new entrants and a few of last year's absentees remained - there were 380 fourth doses given.

Measles.

This disease followed its usual pattern of a bumper year followed by one with few cases. It seems that it takes such an interval between epidemics for a pool of susceptible individuals to collect. When this reaches a certain size the disease can spread readily. There were only 89 cases notified locally.

Diphtheria.

Again no cases locally and only 64 in the country, the lowest recorded. 54% of Norfolk schoolchildren are reckoned to be fully immunised against diphtheria. For the last three years the comparable figures: 53%, 43% and 36% We should like to see even more of the children fully protected.

Diphtheria Immunisation - Health Area 6.

Year of Birth.	Primary Courses completed in 1962.	Reinforcing Doses 1962.
1962	136	-
1961	259	-
1960	56	22
1959	16	11
1958	8	6
1953-1957	63	168
1948-1952	313	621
	851	828

Whooping Cough.

It was a quiet year, only 8,326 cases notified in England and Wales. Our small contribution was 26.

Whooping Cough Immunisation - Health Area 6.

Year of Birth.	Primary Courses completed in 1962.
1962	160
1961	240
1960	52
1959	17
1958	12
1953-1957	16
1948-1952	3
	500

Tetanus.

No cases in this district this year.

Tetanus Immunisation - Health Area 6.

Age.	Primary Courses completed in 1962.	Reinforcing Doses 1962.
Under 16 years	565	127
Over 16 years	381	40
	946	167

Infectious Disease Notifications 1962.

Scarlet Fever	10	Erysipelas	1
Whooping Cough	26	Food Poisoning	0
Poliomyelitis	0	Tuberculosis	4
Measles	89	Puerperal Pyrexia	1
Diphtheria	0	Ophthalmia Neonatorum	0
Meningococcal infections	0	Infective Hepatitis	0
Acute pneumonia	13	Dysentery	0
Smallpox	0	Anthrax	0
Encephalitis	0	Enteric Fever	0

WATER.

The supply - generally is adequate in quantity for the present population and few in the District have not mains water available to them. The quality of water is also good (see analyses under Appendix D). Around three-quarters of a million gallons are raised daily, an average of 35 gallons per head of population. There are 5,571 houses linked to the mains supply, therefore with a population of some 20,000 there can be few relying on well water.

Premises and Farms Connected.	Domestic.	Meter.
Attleborough	960	133
Banham	240	72
Besthorpe	115	27
Blo Norton	53	29
Brettenham	33	5
Bridgham	68	13
Buckenham New	131	13
Buckenham Old	249	64
Carbrooke	132	37
Caston	93	25
Croxton	66	11
Eccles/Hargham/Quidenham/Wilby	131	39
Ellingham Little	61	29
Ellingham Great	162	47
Garboldisham	142	34
Griston	50	16
Harling	300	50
Hockham	100	20
Kenninghall	230	56
Larling/Roudham	57	31
Lopham South	130	36
Lopham North	93	40
Merton	40	8
Morley	12	2
Ovington	37	16
Riddlesworth/Gasthorpe	37	16
Rockland	131	40
Scoulton	51	27
Shropham	57	15
Snetterton	40	14
Stow Bedon/Breckles	64	30
Thompson	73	12
Watton	714	71
Wretham	36	9
	4,888	1,087

Included in the metered supply are some homes (663) hence the total of houses with mains water is 5,571 not 4,888. There are no public standpipes ordinarily in use but some had to be used as a temporary measure during the big freeze of the winter 1962-1963. Fortunately the mains froze only in part of the War Department area at West Wretham and at Shadwell Home Farm. In some twenty cases ice blocked service pipes between main and first stopcock. Standpipes and storage tanks were used temporarily while frost damage was repaired. The Water Engineer estimates that some £1,200 had to be spent on extra work caused by the prolonged cold spell. We would like to record our appreciation of the way in which the staff kept things going despite the weather.

HOUSING.

During the year 2 houses and 4 bungalows were completed, apart from 20 bungalows and 1 Warden's House erected under a joint scheme with the County Council, these bungalows being intended for elderly people. 7 Council Houses were modernised, leaving 272 which still lack hot water systems, bath and flush lavatories. There were 39 Standard and 33, Discretionary Improvement Grants made.

This ends the Report concerning Local Health matters, but I have thought it might prove of interest to include some observations on health items which have appeared in the news during the year.

MISCELLANEOUS NOTES ON HEALTH MATTERS.

Hospital Plan.

The hospital service is scheduled for an £800 million development over the next 10 to 15 years. The basic concept of the plan is that a district general hospital with 300 to 500 beds will serve 100,000 to 150,000 population in its area. There would, of course be flexibility around these figures to suit local needs. Such a district hospital would cover medical and surgical cases, adults and children. The usual special departments would be housed. In addition, a maternity unit, a short stay psychiatric unit and a geriatric (aged-sick) unit would be a part of the district hospital. The advantages of concentrating staff and equipment in one place do seem to outweigh the admitted difficulty that patients and visitors have longer distances to travel. The closure of many smaller hospitals is a necessary corollary to the plan. Some will be retained but not usually for acute cases, serving as outpatient consultative clinics or for the housing of the aged chronic sick. Wayland Hospital beds will continue in use, but after 1970-1975 for elderly sick patients not the acutely ill.

Medical Manpower.

A shortage of doctors in training relative to needs has been developing for some years. This has been made good in the hospitals by the employment of Commonwealth and foreign medical graduates, as is evident to anyone using that service. Around 40% of hospital medical staff below consultant level now employed were born outside the British Isles. Between 1939 and 1958 despite the increasing complexity of modern medicine and improved services the output of medical graduates went up only 7% (in dentistry 93%, veterinary surgery 356%, technology 162%, science 183%). Outweighing this modest increase has been the emigration of medical men. About 1800 doctors qualify here each year and the loss by emigration is about 600. The emigrants are, of course, not exclusively new graduates but also those with experience. This number do not "vote with their feet" unless there is widespread dissatisfaction with medicine as a career here. There is a brisk demand for immigrant physicians in the United States, where the doctor shortage was considered important enough to be mentioned in the President's State of the Union address. Six new medical schools are being started there this year. We should be planning similar expansion.

Thalidomide.

First manufactured in Germany and later in Britain. A sedative with no danger of producing addiction, it seemed preferable to phenobarbitone and the like. After it had been on the market some time there were reports that a few adults on the drug developed tingling in the hands and feet, suggesting neuritis was being produced. An increase in the number of children born with stunted limbs was reported. Eventually, the link was established between thalidomide taken in early pregnancy and such deformities in the newborn. The manufacturers withdrew thalidomide from the market in December 1961. There should therefore be no thalidomide babies after September, 1962. There will still be children born with limb deformities as before thalidomide was thought of - the causes in these cases still unknown.

There were about 450 thalidomide-damaged children live-born in the years 1960-62 in Britain. About 350 are still alive. In Germany, there are somewhere over 3,000 such children. Fortunately, the handicap is purely physical; the intelligence is not impaired. As with all handicapped children, it is surprising how much they can do given help and training. This last should start early in the first year in the case of thalidomide babies. There are limb-fitting centres throughout the country which are run by the Ministry of Pensions. The parents of affected children hope to supplement State facilities rather as the Spastics Society has already done in their field.

Testing of New Drugs.

There was some public disquiet that no official agency checked on new drugs before they were marketed in Britain. Now in the U.S.A., the Food and Drugs Administration issues licences for manufacture or import of drugs and their scientific staff must be satisfied as to safety and purity before marketing is allowed. There is no doubt that the vigilance of one woman doctor in that Federal department prevented thousands of children being born deformed. Oddly enough, her suspicions of thalidomide were probably raised by a report from an Aberdeen family doctor of neuritis in an adult taking thalidomide. There is no guarantee that had we had a similar Government agency, we should have been spared our thalidomide injuries (West Germany had such a body). Nevertheless, it does seem reasonable to have someone other than the manufacturer decide when a drug has been adequately tested. There is to be (1963) such an independent assessment in Britain in the future. It is to be hoped that adequate resources physical and financial, are provided to do the job properly.

Animal Experiments.

These are essential to advance in surgical techniques. It is understandable that practice on the animal heart was necessary before reconstructive heart surgery on children could be attempted; that organ transplanting from animal to animal had to be studied to determine the possible value of such procedures to human recipients and the danger if any to the donors; that the reaction to an artificial valve inserted in the spinal fluid circulation of the animal brain had to be known before use in babies with hydrocephalus (water on the brain). Incidentally, the engineer father of such a child designed the apparatus and it was used successfully.

A small minority of animal experiments is on these lines. The bulk are for such varied purposes as testing material from a human patient for the presence of tubercle (inoculated into a guinea pig); the growing of vaccinia virus for smallpox vaccination (on the belly skin of calves); identification of virus type (mouse brain, monkey brain, rabbit skin in yellow fever, poliomyelitis and smallpox respectively). Serum for treating diphtheria and tetanus is obtained from blood let from previously immunised horses. The horses are as little upset by this as are human blood donors.

The effectiveness and safety of batches of protective sera also have to be tested on animals. New drugs are tested on animals to find out possible dangerous side effects to their main therapeutic one.

All places where animals are used for these purposes must be licensed by the Home Secretary and the research worker himself must also be licenced. The relevant statute is The Cruelty to Animals Act, 1876. Spot checks are done by medical inspectors of the Home Office, who are chosen for their background in research of this kind.

The R.S.P.C.A. feel that the control of experiments is not as good as it should be. It is unfortunate that their publicity material on the subject this year was rather sensational and gave the impression that there was widespread needless cruelty in the laboratory. After all, it was open to the Society to make complaints to the Home Office on any facts known to them and if still unsatisfied to have questions asked in the House.

Smoking and Lung Cancer.

The Royal College of Physicians published a report on this subject in March. The report added no new evidence but reviewed the studies of the previous decade. The conclusion was that the link between smoking and lung cancer was established beyond all reasonable doubt. The Ministry of Health issues posters and a few hospitals are running anti-smoking clinics but these measures are hardly competing on equal terms with tobacco advertising running at around £10 million a year. Even one of the posters ran into trouble, apparently on the grounds that the message "cigarettes cause cancer" offended advertising ethics: perhaps the statement was too sweeping and as it did not apply to every smoker was not an absolute truth: it was banned from some bill-boards. Perhaps we can look forward to other products being similarly censored and we may read on the hoardings: "If you are eighteen years old or over, and provided there is no history of alcoholism in the family and furthermore that you do not suffer from liver-disease or contemplate driving after excessive consumption of our product then in our opinion it is unlikely that "X" will not be good for you".

It would seem more logical to limit tobacco advertising by law rather than indulge in a poster battle. There are other ways of helping those trying to cut down or giving up smoking. A few years back one of the most successful multiple stores banned smoking for employees and customers alike: they still prosper. The atmosphere in cinemas and buses is often foul: would "No smoking" really be such a hardship ?

Drinking Drivers.

It is generally accepted that alcohol is a factor in the genesis of many motor accidents, although there may be insufficient evidence for it to be mentioned in subsequent charges. For example, if the offending driver is injured and taken to hospital, treatment may take time enough for him to sober up before a statement is taken by the police. Shock is a handy alternative explanation of incoherent speech, unsteady gait etc., at the scene of the accident. Recently the blood alcohol level of 239 drivers taken to hospital after accidents showed the following results (blood alcohol above 50 milligrammes per cent = judgment necessarily impaired) :-

Noon	- 6 p.m.	10% drivers	)	
6 p.m.	- Midnight	33%	)	ABOVE 50 Milligrame level
Midnight	- 6 a.m.	58%	)	

Not one was subsequently charged with driving under the influence of alcohol. Of course other charges, dangerous driving, careless driving were alternatives. Remember that a high proportion of those charged with driving under the influence who elect to go for jury trial are acquitted so the standard of proof required of the police is high: it is understandable if charges with less difficulties for the prosecutor are preferred.

The Road Traffic Act, 1962, may make it easier to punish offenders. If a driver's ability is impaired by alcohol an offence has been committed (formerly he had to be incapable of proper control of the vehicle). Also if a driver refuses to allow urine, breath or blood samples to be taken for analysis this refusal can be regarded as support for the prosecution's case. If analysis is done, the results are admissible in evidence. Now officially levels of alcohol in the blood have not been recognised and set at safe and dangerous readings. But the courts are likely to have regard to the practice elsewhere in Europe and to expert opinion here. Both agree that blood alcohol above 50 mgm % is incompatible with safety and that above, 150 mgm % proper control of the vehicle is lost. These levels would be reached after drinking 1½ pints or 4 pints of beer respectively. One for the road may mean one for the morgue.

Appendix A - Health and Welfare Services provided by Norfolk County Council.

These include the care of mothers and young children; supervision of the health of the schoolchild; immunisation against diphtheria, poliomyelitis etc; home nursing and midwifery; home help service; advice on the care of those handicapped physically or mentally. Information of such services may be had from the Local Health Office, Tanner Street, Thetford, Telephone 3286 and 3341.

Appendix B - Derivation of Statistical Rates.

Adjusted Birth Rate :- (Live births per 1000 population) x comparability factor for births.

Adjusted Death Rate :- (Deaths per 1000 population) x comparability factor for deaths.

Comparability factors :- Allow for variation between areas e.g. in the proportion of women of reproductive age and in the age/sex structure of population.

Infant Mortality Rate: Deaths at under 1 year per 1000 live births.
Legitimate I.M.R.: Deaths of legitimate infants per 1000 legitimate live births.
Illegitimate I.M.R.: " " illegitimate " " " illegitimate " "
Maternal Mortality Rate: Deaths attributable to pregnancy per 1000 total births.
Stillbirth Rate: Stillbirths per 1000 total births.
Perinatal Mortality Rate: (Stillbirths and Early Neonatal Deaths) per 1000 total births.
Neonatal Mortality Rate: Deaths at under 4 weeks per 1000 live births.
Early Neonatal Mortality Rate: Deaths at under 1 week per 1000 live births.

Appendix C. - Comparisons with Previous Years.

	1962.	1961.	1960.	1959.	1958.	1957.
Estimated Population	20,040.	19,970.	19,500.	19,210	19,640.	19,740.
Total Births	357	304	313	330	352	321
Total Deaths	228	173	171	202	200	193
Birth Rate (Crude)	17.7	15.0	17.0	17.2	17.9	16.3
Death Rate (Crude)	11.4	8.7	8.7	10.4	10.2	9.8
Infant Deaths	7	4	3	5	10	11
Infant Mortality Rate	19.8	13.4	9.6	15.0	28.4	34.3
Stillbirths	3	5	3	4	5	14
Stillbirth Rate	8.4	16.4	9.7	12.0	16.8	41.8

Appendix D. Water Analyses.

Lincolne Sutton & Wood Ltd.

Cert. No. N.690.
Lab. No. 3651/W 30th. April, 1962.

Certificate of Analysis of Water.

Sample received 25th. April, 1962 from Wayland R.D.C.
Marked - Riddlesworth Waterworks.
Appearance when received - Clear.
Nature of deposit - Nil.
Colour - Nil. Odour - Nil.
Reaction - faintly alkaline pH 7.7 Taste - Satisfactory.

Results of Chemical Analysis in parts per million.

Ammoniacal nitrogen	0.01	Hardness as $CaCO_3$:	
Albuminoid nitrogen	0.03	Total	100
Nitrate nitrogen	3.5	Alkalinity as Na_2CO_3:	240
Nitrite nitrogen	nil		
Chlorine as chlorides	36		

Bacteriological Results.

Number of colonies developing per ml. in 48 grs at 37°C	1
Presumptive coliform orgainsis-Probable No. per 100 ml.	nil

Opinion.

The organic quality of this water is very good and the chemical analysis as a whole is satisfactory. The water has been partially softened, the residual Total Hardness being approximately 7° Clark. The bacteriological condition of the water is very satisfactory and in our opinion this water is fit for drinking and general purposes.

for Lincolne Sutton & Wood Ltd.

Eric C. Wood.

Lincolne Sutton & Wood Ltd.

Cert. No. 689.
Lab. No. 3652/W. 30th. April, 1962.

Certificate of Analysis of Water.

Sample received 25th. April, 1962, from Wayland R.D.C.
Marked - Watton Waterworks.
Appearance when received - Clear.
Nature of deposit - Nil.
Colour - Nil. Odour - Nil.
Reaction - faintly alkaline pH 7.5 Taste - Satisfactory.

Result of Chemical Analysis in parts per million.

Ammoniacal nitrogen	0.01	Hardness as $CaCO_3$:	
Albuminoid nitrogen	0.02	Total	85
Nitrate nitrogen	3.0	Alkalinity as Na_2CO_3	290
Nitrite nitrogen	nil		
Chlorine as chlorides	32		

Bacteriological Results.

Number of colonies developing per ml. in 48 hrs. at 37°C 1
Presumptive coliform organisms-Probable No. per 100 ml. nil

Opinion.

The organic quality of this water is very good and the chemical analysis as a whole is satisfactory. The water has been partially softened, the residual hardness being about 6° Clark. The bacteriological condition of the water is very satisfactory and in our opinion this water is fit for drinking and general purposes.

for Lincolne Sutton & Wood Ltd.

Eric C. Wood.

Lincolne Sutton & Wood Ltd.

Bacteriological Examination of Water.

Cert. No. N.688 Lab. No. 3653/W 30th. April, 1962.

Sample submitted by Wayland R.D.C.

Collected from New 3" main, Dereham Road., Watton, of 25th. April, 1962.

Mark.	Colonies per ml. on agar at 37°C (2 days)	Presumptive Coliform Organisms (acid and gas in McConkey broth at 37°C.) Present in (ml).	Absent in (ml).	Probable No. per 100 ml.
	15			nil

Remarks :- This result is very satisfactory.

for Lincolne Sutton & Wood Ltd.,

Eric C. Wood.

Lincolne Sutton & Wood Ltd.

Bacteriological Examination of Water.

Cert. No. N.720. Lab. No. 3700/3/W 9th. May, 1962.

Sample submitted by Wayland R.D.C.

Collected from as under on 3rd. May, 1962.

Mark	Colonies per ml. on agar at 37°C. (2 days)	Presumptive Coliform Organisms (acid & gas in McConkey broth at 37°C). Present in (ml)	Absent in (ml)	Probable No. per 100 ml.
3700/W Wretham No.1 P.S.	1			nil
3701/W: Wretham No. 2 P.S.	48			nil
3702/W: Croxton P.S.	nil			nil
3703/W: Southwood P.S.	26			nil

Remarks :- These results are satisfactory. for Lincolne Sutton & Wood Ltd.

LINCOLNE SUTTON & WOOD LTD.

10th. May, 1962.

Cert. No. N.728.
Lab. No. 3699/W

Certificate of Analysis of Water.

Sample received 3rd. May, 1962 from Wayland R.D.C.
Marked Old Buckenham W.W.
Appearance when received - Clear.
Nature of deposit - Nil
Colour - Nil
Odour - Nil
Reaction - Alkaline pH above 8.8
Taste - Satisfactory.

Results of Chemical Analysis in parts per million.

Ammoniacal nitrogen	0.01	Hardness as $CaCO_3$:	
Albuminoid nitrogen	0.02	Total	115
Nitrate nitrogen	1.5	Carbonate (temporary)	70
Nitrite nitrogen	nil	Non-carbonate (permanent)	45
Chlorine as chlorides	36	Alkalinity as $CaCO_3$:	70

Bacteriological Results.

Number of colonies developing per ml. in 48 hrs at 37°C	nil
Presumptive coliform organisms-Probable No. per 100 ml.	nil
B. Coli Type 1 ("faecal")	

Opinion.

The organic quality of this water is very good and its bacteriological condition is very satisfactory. The partial softening of the water has reduced its total hardness to about 8° Clark, of which 6° is temporary. In our opinion this water is fit for drinking and general purposes.

for Lincolne Sutton & Wood Ltd.

Eric C. Wood.

LINCOLNE SUTTON & WOOD LTD.

Bacteriological Examination of Water.

Cert. No. M.1072 Lab. No. 4172/3/W 24th. July, 1962.

Sample submitted by Wayland R.D.C.

Collected from as under on 18th. July, 1962.

Mark	Colonies per ml. on agar at 37°C. 24 hrs.	48 hrs.	Probable Number per 100 ml. Presumptive Coliforms.	E.Coli Type 1
4172/W: A. End of new main Cyprus Estate.	nil	nil	nil	
4173/W: B. End of new main Cyprus Estate.	nil	1	nil	

Remakrs :- Both of these results are very satisfactory.

for Lincolne Sutton & Wood Ltd.
Eric C. Wood.

LINCOLNE SUTTON & WOOD LTD.

Bacteriological Examination of Water.

Cert. No. N.1374 Lab. No. 4627/8/W. 26th. September, 1962.

Sample submitted by Wayland R.D.C.

Collected from as under on 19th. September, 1962.

Mark	Colonies per ml. on agar at 37°C. 24 hrs.	48 hrs.	Probable No. per 100 ml. Presumptive Coliforms	E. Coli Type 1.
4627/W: End of New Main, R.A.F. Site Watton "C".	1	5	nil	
4628/W: End of New Main, R.A.F. Site Watton "W".	nil	nil	nil	

Remarks :- These results are very satisfactory.

for Lincolne Sutton & Wood Ltd.,
Eric C. Wood.

A. S. DUNN.

Medical Officer of Health.

REPORT OF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR.

Mr. Chairman, My Lords, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my twelfth Annual Report in respect of the year 1962, during which a total of 3,421 inspection visits were made for all purposes.

During the year, meat inspection problems be-devilled the activities of the Public Health Staff to an even greater extent than hitherto.

These difficulties, added to the fact that the staff was depleted by the serious illness of one of the Inspectors for the last four months of the year, and further by the resignation of the Clerk-pupil in October, made it impossible, again this year, for proper attention to be given to statutory duties.

All five slaughterhouses in the District were brought up to the standards required under the new Slaughterhouses Act.

In an effort to solve the problems of the meat inspection service, the Council engaged Organisation and Method Consultants to investigate and report thereon.

It is regrettable that, year after year, as a result of failure to control days and times of slaughtering, local authority staffs should have to report on duties not carried out and constantly suffer the frustration of being unable to fulfill worthwhile statutory obligations, such as housing, village sewerage schemes etc.

How long we can escape the inevitable consequences of bad housing, primitive sanitation and polluted streams and rivers cannot be estimated, and it must be acknowledged that freedom from epidemics is purely fortuitous.

I feel it is very wrong that, at a time of known shortage of qualified staff, matters of vital importance in the well-being of the community at large should have to be neglected in favour of the demands of a single industry, whilst it is obvious that remedial measures could so easily be applied without undue interference with the vital functions of that industry and with inestimable advantages to Local Authorities and their staffs.

Water Supplies.

During the year, six domestic supplies were sampled/of which two were unsatisfactory and a third one, though much improved since previous sampling, still unfit for drinking purposes.

In one case a borehole was polluted by overflow from drainage but after remedial work and pumping to waste proved to be satisfactory.

Sewer Ditches.

The problems arising from these ditches increase as time passes. It is understandable that householders will not suffer too long the absence of even limited amenities and in any case the water drawn from the tap must be discharged to an outlet, officially approved or not. Staff sickness has hampered routine cleansing of the ditches over a considerable period.

Here again, the provision of village sewerage schemes would have the desirable effect of eliminating disposal problems, as well as ensuring satisfactory drainage facilities for properties where, owing to clay sub-soils, the effective life of a soak-away can only be very limited.

Collection and Disposal of Night-Soil.

This service continued to function satisfactorily throughout the year.

At the end of the year arrangements were in hand for extension of the service by adding another collection area to the two already covered.

Collection and Disposal of Refuse.

The routine operation of this service was maintained in a satisfactory manner.

One of the three dumps in use, (the one at East Harling) became full, was levelled and closed during the year.

The Council arranged for a new dump to be started in a disused mineral working in the same parish.

A new building, large enough to accommodate night soil and refuse collection vehicles, was provided at the Council's Depot at Great Ellingham, in replacement of the ex-Air Ministry building in use hitherto.

Sewerage and Sewage Disposal.

In the parish of Watton, fifty-one properties were connected to the Council's sewer and at Attleborough five such connections were made.

Samples taken during the year gave results as follows :-

(a) Watton Sewage Disposal Works - Very unsatisfactory.
(b) Attleborough " " - Fair.
(c) Old Buckenham " " - Good.
(d) Gt. Ellingham " " - Unsatisfactory.

Enlargement of the Watton Works is still under consideration whilst preparation of the Attleborough Scheme is also in consultant's hands.

At the Great Ellingham plant, which deals with cesspool contents and night-soil, measures taken to improve the effluent were only partially successful and it was feared that extension of night-soil collection areas would impose a greater load on the works, with unsatisfactory results.

Cesspool Emptying.

Demands on this service increased to such an extent during the year that it became impossible to give proper attention to small plants on Council housing sites. In consequence the Housing Department purchased a cesspool emptier for their own use, thus ensuring efficient maintenance of the plants but at the same time adding to the disposal problems at the Great Ellingham plant.

Food.

Further comment on the meat inspection problem would not appear to be necessary, except to draw attention to a comparison of inspection achievement with previous years, so clearly illustrated in the following table, which gives details of inspections, incidence of disease and condemnations :-

	Cattle Excluding Cows.	Cows.	Calves.	Sheep and Lambs.	Pigs.	Sows.	Boars.	Total.
Number Inspected 1962.	4170	441	121	8440	26516	3246	634	43,568
Number Inspected 1961.	2844	583	154	9319	14271	1537	226	28,934
Number Inspected 1960	2171	624	204	7216	10193	1203	122	21,733
All diseases except Tuberculosis & Cysticerci.								
Whole carcases condemned.	5	16	7	2	127	30		
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned.	313	141	5	9	853	385	5	
Tuberculosis only.								
Whole carcases condemned.		1			42	9	3	
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned.	1			26	99	8		

Cysticercosis.

Carsases of which some part or organ was condemned.	17
	2
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration.	3

WEIGHT CONDEMNED.

Edible Offal	17,444 lbs.
Meat	30,929 lbs.
Total	48,373 lbs.

Some 1026 visits were made to the five slaughterhouses in use within the District.

Of these, 6 were made late in the evening, 1 early in the morning, 6 on Saturday evenings and 51 on Sundays.

The fact that the number of visits made was less than last year is accounted for by the arrangement whereby one Inspector was engaged continuously at the Watton Abattoir over a long period.

Two "conditional" and one full licence to slaughter were granted during the year.

Food Premises.

Activities under the Food Hygiene Regulations were also restricted by the demands of the meat trade.

Two new poultry dressing stations were established in the District in accordance with the required standards.

One successful prosecution was taken against a shop in respect of the sale of a fish finger containing a cigarette end.

Three new Registrations of premises were approved in respect of the storage and sale of ice-cream and one in respect of the distribution of milk.

Anthrax - Prevention of Spread of Infection.

Arising from representation by various Authorities, the County Council convened a conference, attended by representatives from The Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, the Farmer's Union, Medical Officers of Health and Public Health Inspectors, to discuss what steps could be taken to implement more efficiently the provisions of the Anthrax Order and further to try to ensure that infected meat could not slip through to be distributed for any purpose (e.g. animal feeding).

As a result, arrangements were made for distribution of information to the various bodies concerned and in particular, practice notes for the use of police officers at infected places.

Infectious and Other Notifiable Diseases.

Again this year it is pleasing to be able to report a low incidence of notifiable diseases indeed, for five months no action has been necessary under this heading.

Human contacts of two milk-cows (confirmed as having died from anthrax) were given preventive treatment by their doctor and disposal of the infected carcases was carried out under our supervision.

Ten cases of Scarlet Fever and a case of enysipelas were investigated and appropriate action taken in respect of contacts. One food handler contact was swabbed and laboratory tests were negative.

An outbreak of diarrhoea was investigated at a Junior Training Centre.

Nine cases were reported but organisms of the dysentery and enteric group were not found.

Swimming Pool - Loch Neaton.

Following informal representation in recent years, this public swimming pool has now been completely reconstructed, in a very satisfactory manner.

It is now provided with filtration and chlorination plant, learner and paddling pools, footbaths and new dressing cubicles.

Rodent Control.

At the end of the year the Council participated in the preparation of a "campaign against the rat" on a County basis. Publicity included distribution of leaflets to business premises, television and press advertising leading up to intensive work in the field in all districts in February 1963.

In addition this District was chosen as the location for a television film on rodent control, for inclusion in a feature programme during the campaign.

It is gratifying to be able to report that the public continue to be very co-operative and appreciative of the regular rodent control service. So much so that at times the two operators are hard pressed to cope with the many requests for their services.

The following table summarises activities under this heading :-

		Non-Agricultural.			Agricultural.
	Local Authority.	Dwelling Houses.	Business & other premises.	Total of Cols. (1) (2) & (3).	
Number of properties in Local Authority's District.	32	5362	608	6002	566.
Total number of properties inspected.	32	4300	240	4572	182
Number of such properties found to be infested by :-					
Rats. Major	1	31	3	35	6
Minor	16	3408	85	3509	133
Mice Major	-	1	-	1	-
Minor	-	34	4	38	-
Total Inspections carried out including re-inspections.	40	4956	262	5258	192
Number of infested properties treated by the Local Authority.	9	3436	50	3495	45.
Total treatments carried out including re-treatments.	9	3477	53	3539	45
Number of 'Block' control schemes carried out.	620				

Drainage of Premises.

On eighteen occasions advice has been given as to measures to be taken to improve defective drainage systems and (in addition to drains connected to sewers) two new drainage systems have been inspected, tested and approved.

Housing.

As in previous years, very little progress has been possible on slum clearance surveys and it is felt that inaction in this sphere is the most serious consequence of the meat inspection burden.

Caravans.

Whilst the improvement of commercial sites proceeds steadily, the problem of individual caravan homes is still very much with us.

It is regrettable that the Air Ministry did not proceed with the proposal to establish a site for their married personnel who, in many cases solve their own problems by selecting a site and occupying it without reference to anyone.

It is true that the Air Ministry is proceeding rapidly with the construction of married quarters but the movement of personnel gives rise to particular difficulties especially as the number of married quarters is inadequate for their needs.

Public Conveniences.

Acts of vandalism continue at Watton and Attleborough, even to the extent of removal of cistern flushing chains.

Supervision of the premises by the police has failed to check vandalism by hooligans whose activities have resulted in the withdrawal of all but the essential amenities.

Petroleum Storage Installations.

Five new storage installations have been licenced during the year, the work having been carried out in accordance with the model Codes of Practice.

Acknowledgement.

Again this year I wish to place on record my appreciation of the loyal support of the Staff of the Department and in particular to make reference to that of the additional Public Health Inspector, Mr. A.E. Sheldrake.

The consideration of the Council and the pleasant co-operation of its Officers is also acknowledged, with gratitude.

A T Rowe

Senior Public Health Inspector.